

REMARKS / ARGUMENTS

AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

The paragraph that begins on line 17 of page 45 is being amended to incorporate SEQ ID NOs for the two strands of the depicted siRNA molecule. Specifically, the top strand has been given the sequence identifier SEQ ID NO:107, and the bottom strand has been given the sequence identifier SEQ ID NO:108, and these two nucleotide sequences have been incorporated into the amended sequence listing that is being provided herewith.

Entry of this amendment is respectfully requested in order to bring the specification into compliance with 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.821 – 1.824.

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Claims 1, 4, 5, 6, 11, 13 and 14 have been amended as suggested by the Examiner. Applicants note that amended Claims 6, 13 and 14 differ slightly from those suggested by the Examiner, in order to maintain consistency of wording between claims, and provide proper antecedent basis for the dependent claims. Specifically, claims 1, 6, 13 and 14 now all refer to the “cytidine to thymidine alteration” at the 373rd nucleotide of the TBC1D1 coding sequence of SEQ ID NO:1, rather than to “a thymidine variant” or “said nucleotide variant.”

Applicants note that the amendments to the claims provided herein are being provided at the request of the Examiner, in order to put the pending claims in condition for allowance. Applicants attest that these amendments do not add any new material to the application, and do not necessitate any additional searches or examination. Applicants respectfully request entry of the amended claims into the application.

AMENDMENTS TO THE SEQUENCE LISTING

As noted above, an amended Sequence Listing is being provided at the request of the Examiner, in order to bring the application into full compliance with 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.821 – 1.824. Entry of the amended Sequence Listing into the application is respectfully

requested, and should be allowed because the amendments do not add new matter to the application, and place the application in condition for allowance.

CONCLUSION

It is believed that the amendments provided herein place the claims in condition for allowance. Hence, entry of the amendments and early notice of allowance are respectfully requested. Should the Examiner determine that additional issues remain which might be resolved by a telephone conference, she is respectfully invited to contact the undersigned through his direct office telephone line at 801-883-3463.

A petition for a two-month extension of time for the filing of this response is being filed concurrently herewith. Provisions for the payment of the necessary fee have been made in the petition. Therefore, it is believed that no other extension of time or any additional fees are due with this response. If this is incorrect, an extension of time as deemed necessary is hereby requested, and the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any appropriate fees, or credit any over payment, to Deposit Account no. **50-1627**.

Respectfully submitted,

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